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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH, AND
CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 8th July, 1871.

POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).

THE *Marwar Gazette* of the 19th June notices the prevalence of the guinea-worm sickness in Jodhpore. Few houses in the city are exempt from it, and in some cases one man has as many as twenty protuberances, which are extremely painful. This is one of those diseases which are peculiar to Marwar. This year it is as prevalent as ever. The writer regrets that none of the physicians who hold jagheers from the Government of Marwar can think of any effective remedy for it, and invites the attention of the Government to the matter.

A correspondent of the *Rohilkhund Akhbar* of the 24th June draws attention to the frequency of thefts in Ghazee-pore. Not a single day passes in which some cases do not occur. Three days ago the house of a bunneah in Mohulla Kot was broken through in three places, and property valued at some three or four thousand rupees was carried away. To judge from appearances, the persons who commit the thefts seem to have come from the east; for two or three men who were lately arrested on the charge of theft appeared from their dialect to be Purbees.

Another correspondent of the same paper suggests the propriety of devoting the lands and other property belonging to the late Musumat Maina, which have escheated to Govern-

ment, to objects of public utility. A portion of the whole estate was sold by auction last week, the proceeds whereof (rupees two lakhs) were paid into the public treasury; while the remainder is in the possession of Government, and will be sold when sanction is given. The family in whose possession the estate has been from the earliest times was ever loyal and faithful to Government, and it would therefore be well that the property should be devoted to some useful purpose such as may immortalize the memory of the family. The sale-proceeds may be applied with advantage to the erection of a Native dispensary, a poorhouse, and a school for imparting education in Sanskrit. The part of the money that remains after defraying the cost of these institutions might be invested in the purchase of currency-notes, the interest, together with the proceeds of the villages remaining unsold, to be spent in their maintenance. Or, if the establishment of the institutions be not desirable, a canal might be cut from the Ganges and conducted through the city, or some other project of public good be set on foot.

Under the heading "Ulwar," the same paper asserts that the management of the state, which is now conducted by a council, is in great disorder. This is due to the *panches* or the members being unfit for governing. It cannot be denied that the Agent to the Governor-General is just and impartial; but he is often misled by the members. Nor can Thakoor Laghudhir Singh, who is grave and considerate, influence their opinions. The writer is of opinion that well-qualified men should be chosen to form members of the council, and that before being nominated to it their experience and administrative abilities should be fully tested.

The *Márwár Gazette* of the 26th June notices the appointment of a municipal committee in Jodhpore six months ago. The members are zealous in promoting the good and welfare of the people, and any measures or reforms they devise are carried out through the police.

The *Akhbār-i-Am* of the 28th June refers to the punishment said to have been inflicted on a cloth-merchant at Cabul, who recently set up as a bankrupt. He was made to go round the city on an ass, and was then ordered to remain in prison till he had repaid his debts. The *Akhbār-i-Am* remarks that, as it has now become a common practice in the British dominions for men to embezzle others' money, and then proclaim themselves as bankrupts, it would be well if Government devised similar punishment for such persons.

An Azimgurh correspondent of the *Agra Akhbār* of the 30th June states that about four months ago a dacoity was committed at a distance of ten miles from that city. The district police being unable to trace the dacoits or the property robbed, the Inspector-General of Police sent Horun Lal, sub-inspector, and two head-constables, from Benares for the purpose. These, with the aid of certain spies, succeeded in tracing the property in Mouzah Zumboorpore, in Pergunnah Nizamabad, and at 2 p.m. on the 26th ultimo, entered the mouzah, attended by a jemiadar and a constable of the police-station situated in the circuit in which the mouzah lies. The lost property was discovered in the house of Sheoratan Pasee, the leader of a party of bad characters, and the Sub-Inspector, after appointing two zemindars and an oil-man of the village as witnesses, busied himself in preparing a list of the property. Towards the close of evening both the zemindars who were witnesses left the place on a pretence, and roused the whole village to attack the Sub-Inspector and his party. The mob assaulted them with great fury and knocked them down with clubs, the women of the village pelting them with stones. The policemen, including the Sub-Inspector, were only twelve in number, and were therefore by no means a match for the whole village. The result was that they were stripped of their very clothes and left almost dead on the spot. The villagers evacuated the village, and were no more to be seen. About midnight, the aforesaid Sheoratan reported to the city police that a dacoity had been committed in his house, and then went

away. Shortly afterwards, a constable and a chowkeedar made a report of what had happened to the police, when a body of men was despatched to the place, where they found the Sub-Inspector and his party lying wounded on the ground. They were all sent to the hospital. One constable was missing among them, and it was after great search that his corpse was found in a river. The case is before the Criminal Court of the district. Sheoratan Pasee and two or three other assailants have been arrested.

The *Koh-i-Nūr* of the 1st July congratulates the Native public on their being able to get the title of Rai without its being conferred by Government. It is stated that an objection was lately raised by a higher officer in the Punjab against the addition of this title to the name of a Native officer of high position in the settlement department, and that inquiries were instituted as to his claim to the distinction. The question was ultimately referred to superior authority, when it was decided by the Financial Commissioner's docket No. 173, dated 21st January last, that, as in Bengal, Government had permitted Sudder Ameens to add Rai to their names in case of their being Hindoos, and Khan in case of their being Musalmans. (Order No. 351, which is mentioned in Marshman's Civil Law); and as the post of Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Punjab is at any rate equal to that of Sudder Ameen in Bengal, the former officers can prefix the title in question to their names just as well as the latter.

The same paper praises the Maharajah of Jeypore for his able management of his state. Undisturbed tranquillity reigns throughout the realm, and the country is daily increasing in prosperity, and making rapid strides towards progress. The administration of the state is thus conducted. The whole country is parcelled out into fifty-two mehals, each of which is provided with a fortress. The mehals, again, are divided into ten divisions, each being under the control of a Nazim, and yielding a revenue of about seven lakhs. The mehals have

been placed under the control of tehseeldars, and the divisions under zillahdars. In a word, the whole administration is conducted with extreme propriety and system.

Under the heading "Peshawur," it is reported that heat is excessive there, and has caused great mortality among animals. To add to this disaster, broils and bloodshed prevail in the city. In Mouzah Bingham, the four brothers of a family destroyed themselves by fighting with one another, and the parents were severely wounded. A case of murder also occurred in Mouzah Dowlutpore. In short, one or two corpses are daily brought to the Court.

In another article it is stated that heat was so intense in Dera Ghazi Khan, on the 27th June, as to cause loss of life. In Tehseel Rajunpore a particular kind of wind, called *jhála* by the inhabitants, has begun to blow, which, as it were, brings the message of death with it. It is no sooner felt on one's body than it kills one. Several deaths have already occurred by it. Small-pox, too, is still raging fiercely.

In the next article, headed "Jhelum," complaint of heat is repeated. Several passengers are stated to have died of thirst. A merchant breathed his last in an inn, leaving property and camels, which for want of any claimant escheated to Government.

It is added that cases of murder are very frequent in these days. Four occurred during the week.

Under the heading "Baraich," the same paper states that the Commissioner of Fyzabad is about to visit the district on tour, and will, it is reported, revise its land-revenue settlement with a view to increase the revenue. This news has alarmed the talookdars and zemindars, most of whom, under the impression that four years ago the settlement of the district had been made for thirty years, for the sake of their own profit improved their estates at a great cost. If the Commissioner interferes with the existing settlement arrangements, the act will call forth loud complaint.

It is added that the operation of Act VII. of 1871, which has just been passed, will also affect these people in a marked manner, and add to their grievances. Formerly, they were only oppressed with the income-tax, and now new burdens are to be imposed on them. At the time of making the settlement, regard was had to the fact that eight annas in the rupee should go to Government, and the other eight annas should be the portion of the talookdars. Latterly, this division of the revenue underwent changes, to the great disadvantage of the latter, so that while Government collects its full share of the revenue, the poor talookdars have been subjected to a variety of new taxes in the shape of miscellaneous collections (*siwái*), school-cess, subscriptions, income-tax, and other kinds of payments, all which assessments so far encroach on their share as scarcely to leave them even four out of the eight annas. Now that a fresh misfortune is in store for them, there will be no end to their distress.

The same paper states that it is given out at Umballa that the son of the late Rajah Devah Indra Singh, by the wife whom he lawfully married at Brindabun, has urged his claims to succession to the throne of Nabha before the Viceroy. This claimant lives in Nundgaon.

The *Punjabi Akhbár* of the same date points out the need of building rooms in connection with the Chief Court, Punjab, for the accommodation of European and Native gentlemen who have to attend the Court as witnesses or litigants. It is remarked that in cases lodged by Europeans the presence of English officers and other respectable gentlemen is often necessary. For these gentlemen there is no special room, in consequence of which they are put to great inconvenience, and have to pace to and fro for hours without finding any place to refresh themselves. Hindoostanee litigants are exposed to a similar inconvenience. They have to put up beneath the shade of trees, which afford but a poor shelter from the weather. Under these circumstances, it is necessary that special

refreshment rooms be provided for the accommodation of Natives as well as Europeans.

The *Urdú Akhbár* of the same date has a long article on Rajpootana. It is stated that the state of Eastern Rajpootana is such as to be worthy of the notice of Government. The Rajpoots inhabiting this region are in a state of complete barbarism, and, as it were, utterly beyond the pale of humanity and civilization. Notwithstanding the connection that sprung up between them and the sovereigns of old, and the opportunities they had of associating with them, they have not emerged from their barbarous condition, and all efforts have proved vain to reclaim them from their beastly habits. A minute detail of their manners and customs would fill a whole volume, and it will therefore suffice to give a few particulars here.

The writer begins with giving an account of the ways and habits of the people of Bikaner. It is remarked that, though a very famous state, the manners of the people there are so coarse and uncivilized as to reduce them to the level of brutes. They keep in a most dirty and uncleanly state, and seldom if ever wash their bodies or change their clothes. When they have once put on a garment they never remove it from the skin until it is entirely worn out. Even those among them who are somewhat civilized perform ceremonial purifications with no more water than can be contained in a small earthen jar. The indecency of their manners is also extreme. It is customary for persons of both sexes to sleep in a state of perfect nudity at night, without any regard whatever to the common forms of decorum. The Chief of the state does not care to reclaim the people from these unbecoming ways and practices.

Another vice which characterizes the Rajpoots is that they pertinaciously adhere to old customs, though they be ever so bad and pernicious. They feel a pride in observing them, and think it beneath their dignity to forsake them. Robbery and dacoity are also a trait in the Rajpoot character. Several of the tribes in Eastern Rajpootana have made them quite a profession,

and live on plunder. In Malwa, for instance, there is a particular tribe called Bheels, who pursue a depredatory career all their life. Even in cases where people of this tribe have taken up their residence in British dominions they have not given up the vicious practice.

Infanticide is another hateful custom which prevails among the Rajpoots to the present day, to say nothing of slave-trade, which is more or less prevalent in all places. In British dominions, no less than in Native states, each prostitute is found to have several young damsels, none of whom are their own offspring. As a rule, they are children of different castes who are privately purchased by prostitutes.

In summing up the statement, the writer expresses his regret that a part of Hindoostan should still be inhabited by such a barbarous and inhuman race, and that no steps should have been taken to reclaim them from their vicious career. The English Government has by its persevering efforts removed darkness from the whole of Hindoostan, but it is much to be regretted that a part of it should still be shut up from the light of civilization. It is gratifying to observe that some of the Native Chiefs have begun to interest themselves in the matter. The Maharajahs of Jeypore and Gwalior, for example, have done much for their people in the way of civilization and reform. Two Mahomedan states, *viz.*, Bhopal and Jowra, are also in a comparatively civilized state. But with all this, there is no hope that the abuses in question will entirely vanish, unless the English Government directs its attention to the matter, as is its duty, considering the relation in which the people of India stand to it.

In its column of local news, the same paper remarks that the contagion of bankruptcy is fast spreading in the city. Five or six cloth-merchants had already proclaimed themselves as bankrupts, and it has now become known that an apothecary and one shopkeeper have followed the example. The amount of the latter's debts is ten thousand rupees. This

state of the times has led mahajuns to stop dealing with one another.

The *Ab-i-Hayát-i-Hind* of the same date asserts that two or three rich bankers in the city of Ajmere have become bankrupts, and that it is feared several others may follow their example. This circumstance has caused great alarm in the city, and every man who has hoondees on Native banks in his possession is trying to have them cashed.

The *Rohilkhund Akhbár* of the same date has an article on bankrupts. It is stated that many persons have made it their practice to open a bank with a small capital, and by a variety of shifts and expedients to show themselves to be mahajuns of a superior class and gain public credit, so that the people are encouraged to deposit their money with them. When these pseudo-mahajuns find that they have got much money into their hands they at once proclaim themselves as bankrupts. The poor creditors have no means of regaining their money, and in vain resort to law for a redress of their grievance; because the mahajuns take the precaution beforehand to transfer all their property, movable as well as immovable. The writer is of opinion that Government ought to take steps to put a stop to this foul-play, which is the fruitful source of mischief, and year by year involves large numbers of people in ruin and distress. The best plan will be to cause all banks and shops which deal in money matters to be registered year by year, and to require the owners to furnish securities in proportion to the extent of their dealings; or else, a special section may be provided in the Indian Penal Code in behalf of men who through dishonest motives set up as bankrupts. Besides defrauding thousands of persons of their money, and thereby reducing them to want and poverty, the so-called bankrupts injure society in other ways. They set a bad example to others, and by pursuing a dishonest career, prove the cause of tarnishing the reputation of their honest brethren and lowering them in the esteem of mankind. Government

has already provided one means of escape from the rapacity of the mahajuns, viz., in the establishment of savings banks for the poor, where they can safely deposit what they can spare from the daily necessities of life, and for the rich in the investment of money in currency-notes; but, unfortunately, the people of this country, who still prefer adhering to old customs do not benefit by them.

An Allahabad correspondent of the *Urdu Delhi Gazette* of the same date, in his letter dated 26th June, writes that the boldness and dexterity with which thieves pursue their career in this city is unequalled, and that their daring and intrepidity increase in proportion as their number becomes larger. It is added, that since the dismissal of a large number of chowkeedars from the police, thieves are daily increasing in number.

A Ghazee-pore correspondent of the same paper, in his letter dated 26th June, states that a boat containing 100 maunds of opium, while on its way to the city from the Bilgram factory, in Seetapore, sank in the Ganges near Zumaneeah on the 24th idem. Instantly on receiving notice of the accident, the Opium Agent sent an assistant with some coolies and divers in that direction.

The *Najm-ul-Akhbar* of the same date has an article on police, the gist of which is that the reason why complaints against the police are so universal is not so much the number of thefts or other criminal cases that occur every year, as the severities practised by them on persons who report such cases to them, in hopes of restoration of the lost property and of receiving justice at the hands of the authorities. It is frequently seen that when a person prefers complaint of a theft to the police, the latter, instead of instituting proper inquiries or tracing the criminal, indirectly prosecute the complainant himself, and expose him to disgrace by laying the suspicion of the crime on persons of his own family, and forcing confessions from them. This state of things has so discouraged Native

gentlemen that when a theft is committed in their house they are afraid to report it to the police, and think it safer to conceal it. They content themselves with their loss, though ever so serious, and voluntarily shrink from taking a step which is sure to involve them in greater distress. This concealment is peculiarly advantageous to the police, whose good or bad management is tested by the number of cases entered on the police diary. The writer refers to a particular Superintendent of Police who used to measure his good management by the paucity of the reports of thefts brought on the register, which is possible by inflicting punishment on complainants themselves under some pretext or other. Cases of theft are thus seldom brought to the notice of the police, and the few that are recorded in the police diary are set down as being simply the taking of a man's property by his son, or if his wife bear a bad character, the surrender of it by her to her paramour. By way of illustration of this fact, the writer alludes to an instance in which a weaver, who had lost property worth Rs. 200, paid dearly for making a report of the theft to the police. The particulars were that the thannahdar on making inquiries found out that the weaver's daughter had shortly before been married, which gave him a pretext for placing the son-in-law in custody, and subjecting him to a very humiliating punishment. The parents of the man, on becoming aware of this circumstance, revenged the disgrace, of which they thought the bride's father was the cause, by subjecting the bride to a similar indignity. The poor weaver had no other resource left to extricate himself from these troubles than to report to the police that the lost property had been found. The writer is of opinion that the attention of Government ought to be drawn to the special conduct of the police which is the subject of this article.

The same paper, in referring to the exaltation of a Parsee, who held the post of Extra Assistant Commissioner in Berar, to the office of Private Secretary to Sir Salar Jung, Prime Minister of Hyderabad, remarks that Natives ought to be elevated to similar preferments and offices of trust under the

English Government, and comments on their fitness for such elevation.

The *Rohilkhund Akhbār* of the same date has a communicated article on the desirability of laying down general and approved rules as to the times of lighting the bazaars in the cities of the North-Western Provinces. It is remarked that in most cities the custom is to light the lamps at 10 p.m. in dark nights, or after the moon sets when there is one, while in some they are kept burning all night long, and in others are lighted after midnight. The writer disapproves these arrangements, and thinks that the times for lighting the bazaars should be uniform in all cities, especial allowance being made in case of such of them as are situated close to some sacred river, where people go out to bathe from midnight till morn. He would have all public streets, thoroughfares, and lanes which are a common resort lighted in the evening, the time when they are most frequented; and finds fault with municipalities for disallowing the use of lamps before ten o'clock, for the trivial reason that shops are kept lighted till that time. Such sparing views reflect great discredit on the municipal committees, and it has probably escaped their notice that in many places there are no shops, and that where there are, most of them, such as those of cloth-merchants, braziers, haberdashers, and men of other professions, are not kept open till ten, but are closed as soon as it is evening. In a word, the absence of lights in the evening is a source of great inconvenience to the public, whose means do not generally allow of their carrying their own lights. The writer is of opinion that the Government, North-Western Provinces, should direct its attention to the matter, and lay down general rules in this respect.

A correspondent of the same paper complains that, while Government takes great precautions not to employ two men of the same family in the same office, this rule is overlooked by it in appointing members of municipal committees. It is often seen that two and even three men of the same family are

nominated members of a municipal committee at the same time. These, as might be expected, uphold the views of each other, irrespective of all consideration as to whether they will tend to promote or injure the interest of the public; and, accordingly, the appointment of such members results in nothing but harm. As municipal members are intrusted with important matters connected with the public good, and it is in their power to do much good or harm, it is proper for Government to see that the rule in question is not infringed in their case any more than in the case of Government officials.

The same paper has another communicated article on tehseelee roads. It is remarked that in all districts under the English Government a road-cess of one per cent. on the land revenue is collected, which yields an annual income of some twelve or fourteen thousand rupees. This sum has been collected for years, and spent on tehseelee roads under the supervision of the district authorities; but, notwithstanding this, the roads are still *kutchas*. This reason is that the whole of the road fund is wasted in repairing the sides of *kutchas* roads and filling the ruts and cavities that are found in them after the close of the rainy season. As soon as the rains again set in, the roads are again in a disgraceful condition, and the same operation is repeated. Thus, while a large sum of money is thrown away year by year, the roads are not only none the better, but are almost impassable during the rains, and throw impediments in the way of trade. To avoid this double disadvantage, the writer suggests that one-fourth of the yearly income from the road-cess be spent in paying the establishment kept up for the superintendence of the road, one-fourth in repairing the *kutchas* roads in the way now done, and the remaining one-half in the construction of as many miles of *pucca* road as may be possible with the sum available. If this system be adopted, all tehseelee roads will become *pucca* in the course of a few years, and all inconvenience and trouble which the people have now to suffer in the rainy season will be removed.

A third communicated article in the same paper dwells on the losses suffered by the malgoozars and cultivators by the present untimely rains. The writer remarks that the rains were never known to have set in so early in the past years as in this, in consequence of which many of the malgoozars and cultivators have suffered a heavy loss. In the districts of Rohilkbund in particular, which are situated close to the hills, the rainy season commenced as early as May, and has since continued without intermission, the result of which has been that grain to the extent of hundreds of thousands of maunds has been destroyed, and cultivators have not been able to find time to clean the corn, though in a few cases some of them have placed thatch over the grain-stores. Worse still is the case of villages situated near the banks of rivers, where grain-stores have been swept away by the flood. A special fact has come to the writer's notice, viz., that in villages where the rent is paid in cash, the cultivators lost no time in removing the grain from the harvest-floors, and thus saved it from being spoiled; while in villages where the rent is paid in kind, and where, accordingly, the tenants had no concern with paying the rent to Government, they did not show the least concern for preserving the corn, but spent their time in entertainments and jolly companies. The malgoozars of such villages are therefore involved in great distress, and are not in a position to pay the Government revenue. For this reason, it will be an act of mercy on the part of Government, if the collection of the revenue of such villages be postponed till the time of the next harvest.

The *Kavi Vachan Sudha* of the 2nd July draws the attention of the Municipality of Benares to the following reforms:—

(1) The lanes and bye-streets of the city are not kept in a state of cleanliness, which is a source of great inconvenience to the residents. In these days in particular they are in a disgraceful state. Water collects in several places and makes the lanes dirty and muddy, while the leavings of mangoes are

allowed to rot in places, and emit a bad smell. It behoves the Municipal Committee to employ a suitable number of peons to superintend the cleanliness of the lanes.

(2) Dyers hang clothes in the bazaars to dry, which touch the heads of all passers-by, and are especially troublesome to riders, whose caps are not unfrequently knocked off. Steps should be taken to stop the practice.

(3) Persons who build houses heap the materials in the lanes, which blocks up the passage and makes it difficult to pass through. Plans should be adopted to do away with the abuse.

(4) The people are in the habit of tying their cows and she-buffaloes in the lanes, which ought to be stopped. The Municipality seems to be averse to the cleanliness of the byestreets of the city, which, according to some, is owing to the limits of the Municipality extending no further than the streets frequented by buggies; but this is not just.

(5) Boys are generally seen playing in streets where buggies are driven, whence there is danger of being hurt. A special prohibition should be issued on this subject.

(6) Shops for the sale of flesh are scattered in the different parts of the city, and are unseemly sights. They should all be removed to some particular spot, say, in Dal-ki-Mundee, or other place, and kept within an enclosure, a plan by which, while the Committee will have the advantage of receiving a rent for the use of the enclosure, the people will get rid of a nuisance.

(7) Prostitutes are settling themselves in parts of the city inhabited by men having a family, which is bad. It were good if a separate place were assigned for their residence.

(8) Liquor-shops are increasing in number, and are even to be seen near seats of civilization. There is one between the Benares Institute on one side, and the boarding-house and Normal School on the other; another is in front of the Kurn-

ghunta School, and a third outside the college gate. In short, there is no place without a seller of spirits near at hand.

(9) It may not be deemed presumptuous to remark that the Municipal Commissioners are blamed by the people of the city for their pride and injustice.

The editor hopes that the above suggestion will receive attention.

In its column of local news, the same paper also notices the following:—

(1) The death by lightning of a Brahmin in Nourungabad.

(2) The report that the dispensary will be removed from the old Tuksal to Jugutgunj. The writer fails to see the reason of this transfer, and considers the present locality very suitable for the dispensary.

(3) The proposed establishment of a new press in the city, under the name of "Benares Printing Press," where all sorts of writings, English, Hindee, or Oordoo, will be printed. It is remarked that the establishment of this press will be viewed by many with feelings of pain.

(4) The sinking of two boats in the Ganges, one containing rice, and the other men, on the 24th June last. Two or three persons are stated to have sunk with the boats.

In another article, the same paper notices the introduction of a new two-anna postage-stamp, and remarks that on account of being of a deep red colour it is likely to be confounded with the eight-anna stamp.

In a third article, the same paper explains the reason of the attack recently made on the butchers in Umritsur by a party of Hindoos. It is stated that the Hindoos of that city had asked the Municipal Committee to prohibit the sale of beef in the city, which request was disregarded on account of the majority of the members being Europeans and Mahomedans.

The Hindoos took offence at this, and a party of them forming themselves into a body, fell on the butchers with drawn swords to take vengeance on them for cow-slaughter. Two of the butchers were left dead on the spot, and four others were severely wounded. The darkness of the night prevented the murderers from being discovered. Suspicion has fallen on some Sikhs. In the writer's opinion, the whole blame of the matter rests on the Municipal Committee, who unjustly refused to attend to a serious grievance of the Hindoos.

In a fourth article, the same paper notices the sale of thirty-four Arab damsels to the prostitutes at Bombay for Rs. 3,000.

A fifth article in the same paper refers to the heavy punishment, of Rs. 27,000 fine and three years' imprisonment, said to have been inflicted by Sir Salar Jung on Mohi-ood-deen Pasha, a Judicial Commissioner in the Hyderabad territories.

A Benares correspondent of the same paper complains that the prostitutes of the city have not only settled themselves near the houses of the citizens, but that even public streets are occupied by them, and so crowded by their numerous lovers as almost to block up the passage. While Lucknow was under the Native rule, special places were assigned there for birds, pigeons, and other amusements, and it would be good in the writer's opinion if a similar arrangement were made in the districts under the British sway with regard to prostitutes. A special place should be set apart for their residence, where they may indulge themselves in their sinful pleasures.

The *Kárnámah* of the 3rd July reports the frequency of thefts in the city of Lucknow. A serious case has come to notice. The house of Meer Baqur Ali was broken through, and all the money and other property in a particular apartment was robbed. Out of the lost property two packs alone have been found, containing, among other things, currency-notes of the value of Rs. 4,000. The writer remarks that since the consumption of opium and *madak* (a preparation of opium for smoking) has increased, thefts have become more

frequent, and recommends that the sale of *madak* be stopped by means of a public prohibition.

The same paper finds fault with the Settlement Officers of Oudh for passing wrong decisions in many cases. Worse still, the decisions of the subordinate officers are upheld by the superior authorities, and thus suitors, even where they have recourse to appeal, fail to receive justice. A remarkable instance of this has at present come to notice. Seetul Koormee was the hereditary proprietor of the four villages, Lalgunj, Baijnath Khera, Jugdeespore, and Davun, situated in the district of Oonao, and had been in continued possession of them, not only under the Native rule, but also ever since the commencement of the British rule in Lucknow. But, notwithstanding this, at the time of the regular settlement, the Settlement Officer of Roy Bareilly on the bare fact of a false claimant, one Seetul Tewaree, producing a deed of gift in his name signed by Baboo Ram Buksh, a rebel, and forging a statement to the effect that the Koormee, on account of being his namesake, dishonestly had his name entered on the roll, dispossessed the Koormee of his proprietary right. Mr. Currie, the Commissioner, upheld the same decision, without making inquiries as to the truth of the deed of gift, or securing the evidence of the inhabitants of neighbouring villages as to the rightful owner of the disputed property. Afterwards Moon-shee Najaf Ali, the Extra Assistant Commissioner, and Major Wylie, on making inquiries established the Koormee's right. But, unfortunately, on the adverse party lodging an appeal before General Barrow, the Financial Commissioner, the decree was reversed, and the decision of the Settlement Officer was again upheld. Neither proprietary right nor possession were allowed to have any weight, nor was it taken into consideration that the Tewaree had laid claim only to twelve beegahs of land, granted by Baboo Ram Buksh, and not to all the four villages. Even if, while the case was pending, inquiries had been made from the people of the surrounding villages, the poor Koormee would not have been deprived of his right and driven to despair.

The writer believes that if the injured man prefer an appeal to the Chief Commissioner, and clearly state the circumstances of the case, there is a possibility of his being restored to his right.

The same paper alludes to the surprise expressed by the *Urdú Guide* that some talookdar has at present sold a house of the Kaiser Bagh, which was granted by Government expressly for the purpose of accommodating Native and European gentlemen who might come from other cities. The writer supports the statement, and asserts that the news has likewise come to his knowledge. It is added that in the deed showing the division of the houses in the Kaiser Bagh, it is clearly laid down that, though any one of the talookdars is at liberty to transfer his share to another talookdar, none of them can grant or sell it to any other person. Notwithstanding this provision, however, the houses in the bagh will frequently be sold unless Government devotes its attention to the matter. There is no knowing what becomes of the materials of houses which fall down. General Barrow took particular notice of such incidents, and unless the Chief Commissioner does the same, no trace of the houses will be left in the course of a few years.

It is added that since the revision of the municipal taxes, people who come into the city from other places suffer great annoyance at the hands of the tax-gatherers. The writer mentions an instance, in which a Native gentleman of rank, who had come to visit the city from abroad, had his property searched first at the railway station and then at the Hindola Police-station. When no dutiable goods were found in his possession, the diamond-rings on his fingers were unjustly taxed, in spite of his remonstrances. The writer thinks that the Superintendent of Octroi should direct his attention to the abuse, and see that gentlemen are not unnecessarily interfered with or delayed on the streets.

A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Agra, notices the murder of a bunniah lad of fourteen in Rajah-ki-Mundee, by the son of a Brahmin, by means of kicks and blows;

and the death of a woman in Belungunj, whose profession it was to sell wood, by being crushed beneath a treasurer's *ekka*, which was being driven at full speed. Both these cases have been overlooked by the police—the first on the ground that the parents of the deceased have no claims on the murderer, and the second that the woman fell down on the ground in a fit of epilepsy and died, and that she did not receive any hurt from the *ekka*. The writer finds fault with the police for stifling the truth in both cases, and remarks that, even if it were supposed that both the deaths were accidental, the treasurer ought surely to have been called to account for furiously driving the *ekka* in the bazaar. It is added that the true particulars of both the cases are well known in the city, and that the police will gain nothing by their misstatements. The circumstances connected with the death of the *bunneah* lad have already been reported to the Magistrate, who has placed the murderer in custody. The case is before the Court.

The *Dabdaba-i-Sikandar* of the same date praises the Maharajah of Jeypore for abolishing the octroi-tax in his dominions. This plan will also be useful in saving merchants and passengers from the extortions which were before practised on them by peons appointed at different stations to collect the tax. It is added that the Legislative Council which was established in the state some time ago is daily improving.

The *Oudh Akhbār* of the 4th July has an article on copper coins. It is remarked that not only are different kinds of copper coins peculiar to different places, so that the coin of one place cannot be exchanged in another but with great disadvantage, but that the rates of these coins are constantly rising and falling in the very place where they are in use. The Nawabi pice of Lucknow, for instance, at one time sell at the rate of 21 *gundas* for a rupee, and at another at 26. It is thus manifest that the use of the several kinds of pice, while it is a source of loss to Government in preventing the wide currency of the English pice, is also disadvantageous to the people. Accordingly, Government would do well to cause the use of all

other kinds of pice except the English to be abolished ; or, if they are kept in currency at all, a rate should be fixed for each kind, as with English pice, which sell at 32 *gundas* for a rupee.

The same paper notices the embezzlement of a large amount of the public money at Jodhpore by Bahadoor Mull, treasurer. He had for some time past been in the habit of forging orders for money on the part of the Government. One of these was recently detected in the Agency Office, when inquiries were made, and thirty-four more forged orders were found. By thus stealing the public money, the man, who was before very poor, has become a millionaire during the short space of six or seven years he has been in the service of the State. The Government of Jodhpore unjustly suffers such dishonest persons to escape with impunity. In the writer's opinion the English Government has a right to interfere by virtue of the treaty of 1869.

A Budaon correspondent of the same paper reports that Ali Husain, chowkeedar of the city police, who was arrested on the charge of having a share in the murder of Hurdyal Singh, has been acquitted, but that the other prisoners, Abdullah and Chatur Bhooj, have been committed to the sessions. The writer remarks that the chowkeedar had certainly a share in the crime, and that it was good tact of the police to exempt him from the charge for fear of bringing disgrace on themselves.

EDUCATIONAL.

A correspondent of the *Rohilkhund Akhbār* of the 1st July notices the establishment of a female school at Moradabad for the education of Hindoo girls, by Pundit Nund Kishore, Deputy Collector. The school has been placed under the charge of a Pahari Pandit, one Liladhur, and promises to make a rapid progress. The girls' schools hitherto established in the city were all Mahomedan, and the writer therefore welcomes the establishment of the new school with all the more appreciation.

Another female school has been established in Bellary by Hafiz Abdur Raheem, the Moonsiff. The master is an old Mahomedan and an able man.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Allypore Gazette* of the 30th June reports the establishment of a new society in that city under the name of "Anjuman-i-Akhlaq." The secretary to the society at a meeting delivered a long speech on good manners, which the *Gazette* publishes *in extenso*.

The *Gwalior Gazette* of the 2nd July states that, on the 23rd of June last, the Maharajah of Gwalior was pleased to grant to his ministerial officers and servants who are to go in his suit to Poona, Pindulpore, and Bombay, costly suits of apparel worth, in all, about Rs. 50,000.

The *Oudh Akhbār* of the 4th July notices the discovery of a copper mine by the Minister of Jodhpore, in addition to the mines of silver and lead noticed in a late number of this paper. Altogether, the Minister has now discovered seven mines of the three metals, which run for miles.

A Budaon correspondent of the same paper writes that the estimate of the golden cupola of the Jami Masjid in that city has been made at Rs. 10,000, out of which Rs. 9,000 have already been collected, while more money is being raised. The Nawab of Rampore has contributed Rs. 1,000.

A Jeypore correspondent of the same paper states that the Maharajah has established hospitals in the towns of Do-do, Dosih, and Mahwa, which are situated near the public road, for the benefit of his subjects living in the environs of Jeypore, as well as common travellers and passengers.

The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this report, viz.:—

No.	NAME OF NEWSPAPER.	WHERE PUBLISHED.	DATE.		DATE OF RECEIPT.	
			1871.		1871.	
1	Dhaultpore Gazette, ...	Dhaultpore, ...	May	10th	July	2nd
2	Ditto, ...	Ditto, ...	"	17th	"	2nd
3	Ditto, ...	Ditto, ...	"	24th	"	2nd
4	Ditto, ...	Ditto, ...	June	8th	"	2nd
5	Ditto, ...	Ditto, ...	"	15th	"	2nd
6	Márwár Gazette, ...	Jodhpore, ...	"	19th	"	2nd
7	Anjuman-i-Hind, ...	Lucknow, ...	"	24th	"	4th
8	Rohilkhund Akhbár, ...	Moradabad, ...	"	24th	"	5th
9	Gwalior Gazette, ...	Gwalior, ...	"	25th	"	2nd
10	Márwár Gazette, ...	Jodhpore, ...	"	26th	"	6th
11	Oudh Akhbár, ...	Lucknow, ...	"	27th	"	2nd
12	Málwá Akhbár, ...	Indour, ...	"	28th	"	4th
13	Akmal-ul-Akhbár, ...	Delhi, ...	"	28th	"	5th
14	Akhbár-i-Am (new paper), ...	Lahore, ...	"	28th	"	5th
15	Naiyir-i-Akbar, ...	Bijnour, ...	"	29th	"	2nd
16	Akhbár-i-Alam, ...	Meerut, ...	"	29th	"	5th
17	Allygurh Institute Gazette, ...	Allygurh, ...	"	30th	"	3rd
18	Lawrence Gazette, ...	Meerut, ...	"	30th	"	5th
19	Jalwa-i-Túr, ...	Ditto, ...	"	30th	"	6th
20	Muir Gazette (Urdú), ...	Ditto, ...	"	30th	"	6th
21	Agra Akhbár, ...	Agra, ...	"	30th	"	6th
22	Núr-ul-Absár, ...	Allahabad, ...	July	1st	"	2nd
23	Koh-i-Núr, ...	Lahore, ...	"	1st	"	4th
24	Panjábi Akhbár, ...	Ditto, ...	"	1st	"	4th
25	Urdú Akhbár, ...	Delhi, ...	"	1st	"	5th
26	Majma-ul-Bahrain, ...	Ludhiana, ...	"	1st	"	5th
27	Urdú Delhi Gazette, ...	Agra, ...	"	1st	"	5th
28	Ab-i-Hayát-i-Hind, ...	Ditto, ...	"	1st	"	5th
29	Samaya Vinod, ...	Nynce Tal, ...	"	1st	"	6th
30	Najm-ul-Akhbár, ...	Meerut, ...	"	1st	"	6th
31	Mufid-i-Am, ...	Agra, ...	"	1st	"	8th
32	Rohilkhund Akhbár, ...	Moradabad, ...	"	1st	"	8th
33	Ditto Samáchar Patr, ...	Ditto, ...	"	1st	"	8th
34	Gwalior Gazette, ...	Gwalior, ...	"	2nd	"	7th
35	Kavi Vachan Sudhá, ...	Benares, ...	"	2nd	"	7th
36	Dabdaba-i-Sikandarí, ...	Rampore, ...	"	3rd	"	6th
37	Kárnámah, ...	Lucknow, ...	"	3rd	"	7th
38	Shola-i-Túr, ...	Cawnpore, ...	"	4th	"	6th
39	Nasim-i-Jaunpore, ...	Jaunpore, ...	"	4th	"	6th
40	Oudh Akhbár, ...	Lucknow, ...	"	4th	"	8th

ALLAHABAD:
The 14th July, 1871. }

SOHAN LAL,
Offg. Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of
Upper India.

DATE: 10/17/1964

Year	Month	Day	Time	Place	Event
1901	May	1st	10:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	2nd	11:00	London	Departed
1901	May	3rd	12:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	4th	13:00	London	Departed
1901	May	5th	14:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	6th	15:00	London	Departed
1901	May	7th	16:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	8th	17:00	London	Departed
1901	May	9th	18:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	10th	19:00	London	Departed
1901	May	11th	20:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	12th	21:00	London	Departed
1901	May	13th	22:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	14th	23:00	London	Departed
1901	May	15th	24:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	16th	25:00	London	Departed
1901	May	17th	26:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	18th	27:00	London	Departed
1901	May	19th	28:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	20th	29:00	London	Departed
1901	May	21st	30:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	22nd	31:00	London	Departed
1901	May	23rd	32:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	24th	33:00	London	Departed
1901	May	25th	34:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	26th	35:00	London	Departed
1901	May	27th	36:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	28th	37:00	London	Departed
1901	May	29th	38:00	London	Arrived
1901	May	30th	39:00	London	Departed
1901	May	31st	40:00	London	Arrived

ALL YAH03

Off. Genl. Inspector on the Yosemite Forest of
Yosemite National Park, California